GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7515
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
NATHPA JHAKRI POWER PROJECT
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Irregularities in award of contracts` appearing in `Tribune` dated April 3, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(d) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER

(SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) to (c) : The press report pertains to the observations relating to the audit conducted by Special Audit Team of Comptroller & Auditor General of India (CAG) inJanuary, 2000. The audit observations related to the payment of escalation charges to the Contractors by the Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation(NJPC), award of contracts for strengthening of colony road and aGuest House as well as discrepancies in the settlement of certain LTC claims of Vigilance Officer of the Corporation. Nathpa Jhakri Power Corporation (NJPC) have furnished the requisite clarifications to the Office of CAG.

As regards the discrepancies relating to settlement of LTC claims of Vigilance Officer of the Corporation,NJPC will take appropriate action on the completion of ongoing investigations in the matter.

(d) : All the six units of 250 MW each of NathpaJhakri Hydro-electric Project (1500 MW) are likely to be commissioned byMarch, 2002.